



CARIBBEAN RADIO LIGHTHOUSE

Send out thy Light and thy Truth Psalm 43:3

January 2020

Happy New Year! We intended to write a letter before the end of the year, but, as you can see, we're a little late due to the season and being short staffed.

In August, Bro. Jerry Johnson, a BIMI missionary in Antigua for 46 years (1967-2013) passed away. Bro. Johnson was very instrumental in the founding of several Baptist churches and a Christian primary school in Antigua and a Christian international youth conference. When plans were being made to start Caribbean Radio Lighthouse on Antigua, he helped other BIMI missionaries with surveys and introductions to government offices. Many of the Caribbean Christians call he and his wife "Papa J" and "Mama J." And so, in October, the Baptist churches across the Caribbean came together to hold a memorial service for him in Antigua. Our BIMI Caribbean director, Bro. Gary Sprunger, was able to speak at the service and also visit CRL's new facilities. Our radio station was able to rebroadcast the service on air, and even listeners who did not know him said they were encouraged by the memories of his life.

In December, another BIMI missionary, Dr. Ray Thompson, who strongly supported the start of CRL went home to be with the Lord. Dr. Thompson served the Caribbean as a missionary for 39 years, founding a church, a Bible college, and the West Indies Baptist Fellowship. At BIMI, he served as the Caribbean Director and eventually the Executive Vice President and a Member of the Board of Trustees. I only met Dr. Thompson a few times, but his love for the ministries and people of the Caribbean was very evident.

In November, we were asked to promote CRL at two Christian school chapels. Instead of just talking about programs, we tried to mimic our afternoon children's programs, by playing clips of dramas, singing songs, and even letting the children participate in a recording of our Scripture Memory Moment. The children were excited that they would be able to hear their voices on the radio in the coming days. We pray that the Lord will use this time to draw children to listen and hear the truths from God's Word on CRL.

We're always excited to air our Christmas music and programming during December! This year, we made a special effort to add new Christmas dramas and music to our schedule. The comments from listeners were uplifting as they noticed and were thankful for the additions.

Now, as spring is around the corner, my wife and I are preparing for a three-month furlough beginning in March. This furlough, we are focusing on visiting our 23 personal supporting churches. With no other missionaries at CRL, this has taken quite a bit of forethought to cover both the administrative and technical aspects of our ministry. Our four Caribbean staff members work diligently each day to keep up with the programming and board shifts. To this end, we've made arrangements with several Christian individuals in Antigua to help during the three months with different aspects of the ministry (financial, computers, technical, landscaping, etc.). Our CRL staff is also ready for additional responsibilities. Please pray that we are able to have everything prepared ahead of time, and that operations will run smoothly while we are gone. Please keep the need for additional personnel at CRL in your prayers.



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In our prior letter, we asked for prayers and support as we raised the remaining funds to replace our truck. By the end of December, all the needed funds had been donated! Thank you for your prayers and giving!

We apologize that we have not been able to write often, but please know that Caribbean Radio Lighthouse is still beaming out the Gospel and the truths of God's Word to the people of the Caribbean islands. Recent notes from some of our listeners:

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the wonderful work that you are doing. The Word of God has been used truthfully and read wonderfully so that lives can be saved."

"Keep on beaming forever... I want to say thank God for this radio station with all who contribute to its operation and upkeep. I love all the programs... I am so enlightened, blessed, and edified."

"We are grateful that the Lord continues to use the ministry of the radio station to provide sound biblical teaching and good Gospel music to encourage us. Indeed, you continue to send out God's light and truth all around the world. I was very surprised to hear Lighthouse programming broadcasting for a local minibus full of passengers on my way to work!... Continue in your faithful service to the Lord!"

For the Lighthouse Staff,
Nathan P. Owens

Kirkland Update: If you send cards or mail to Ken & Nancy Kirkland, please use their new home address:
519 Bryton Avenue, Pottstown, PA 19465, USA.

Addition for Nathan & Renee Owens' Personal Prayer Letter:

Happy Thanksgiving! Merry Christmas! And Happy New Year from the Owens in Antigua! Our ministry at Caribbean Radio Lighthouse and at our local church in Antigua keep us quite busy! As for news other than our ministry at CRL...

We continue to serve at our local church, Nathan as a deacon, Renee as the church and school bookkeeper, and both of us on the school board.

In November, Renee was able to plan and prepare the meal for the Independent Baptist Men's Prayer Breakfast that was held at our church. And, it seems we have made a tradition of hosting a Caribbean Thanksgiving meal at our home for a large group from the church.

In December, most of Renee's immediate family was able to come to Antigua for two weeks during Christmas! It was exciting to watch the six nieces and nephews (ages 2-9) experience our Caribbean home and ministry. We're extremely thankful that they were able to come!

In January, Renee's grandmother passed away, and Renee was able to go to the States for one week to attend and help with the funeral. By her own testimony, we believe Renee's grandmother is in heaven. Isn't it amazing, that even in death, a Christian can find joy that the departed is with her Savior!

We want to thank everyone involved with the fundraising for our truck! By the end of the year, the entire amount needed had been donated! Thank you for your prayers and giving!

Now, we are making arrangements for our spring furlough, March through May. As you read in the CRL prayer letter, please pray for all the preparations involved. Please also pray as we schedule our route throughout the United States.

We do not take your thoughts and prayers for us and CRL for granted! Thank you, thank you for your support! We hope to see many of you this spring!

Nathan & Renee Owens
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Check out BIMI's World Magazine Article about CRL:
www.bimi.org/onlineMags/201world/index.html